

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-51 and 54. The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of creating a document suitable for hard copy reproduction, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving information from at least one electronic source document, [[said]] the information including a plurality of referential links establishing corresponding referential paths between components of [[said]] the information;
- (b) defining a physical structure of [[said]] the document suitable for hard copy reproduction and sufficient to reproduce [[said]] the information;
- (c) defining a plurality of document links associated with [[said]] the physical structure and corresponding to [[said]] the referential links;
- (d) assigning a user interpretable functional link to each [[said]] document link, wherein each functional link forms a traversable physical path in the document between components of the information; and
- (e) ~~optimizing~~ arranging a number of ~~said user interpretable~~ the functional links by assigning plural ones of [[said]] the document links to at least an individual one of [[said]] the functional links.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein [[said]]

the physical structure comprises at least one single printable page and [[said]] the functional links comprise at least one indicium printable onto [[said]] a single page, and step (e) comprises merging plural ones of [[said]] the document links to form a single ~~said indicia~~ the indicium associated with a component on [[said]] the page.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein [[said]] the physical structure comprises plural printable pages and [[said]] the functional links comprise at least one cut-out tab formed in at least one of [[said]] the pages, and step (e) comprises assigning plural ones of [[said]] the document links to a single one of [[said]] the at least one cut-out [[tabs]] tab.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method according to claim 3, wherein at least one [[said]] cut-out tab is formed as part of a nest of correspondingly located tabs associated with plural ones of [[said]] the pages.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method according to claim 4, further comprising the step of retaining structure definitions of [[said]] the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document in a corresponding fashion.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method according to claim 4 or 5, further comprising the step of defining a presentational style to [[said]] the document and applying

[[said]] the presentational style to [[said]] the functional links to distinguish [[said]] the functional links from [[said]] the components.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A method according to claim 6, further comprising the step of retaining [[said]] the presentational style of [[said]] the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document with [[said]] the presentational style.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of defining content specific document links and incorporating corresponding functional links into [[said]] the document.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method according to claim 8, wherein [[said]] the content specific document links are user defined.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of associating a predetermined stylistic layout with ~~said-optimized~~ the arranged functional links so as to vary a hard-copy reproduction of [[said]] the document.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method according to claim 10, wherein [[said]] the predetermined stylistic layout implements [[the]] a formation of cut-out tabs as at least some of ~~said-optimized~~ the arranged functional links.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein step (e) comprises grouping ~~[[said]]~~ the document links according to predetermined criteria associated with ~~[[said]]~~ the document links, each ~~[[said]]~~ group having associated therewith at least one corresponding ~~optimized~~ arranged functional link.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method according claim 1 or 12, wherein step (e) comprises the sub-steps of:

(ea) importing ~~[[said]]~~ the information into ~~[[said]]~~ the physical structure to form ~~[[said]]~~ the document; and

(eb) applying ~~said-optimized~~ the arranged links to ~~[[said]]~~ the document.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of ~~[[said]]~~ the functional links comprises corresponding cut-out tabs linking different pages of ~~[[said]]~~ the document, and step (e) comprises the sub-steps of:

(ec) identifying those of ~~[[said]]~~ the document links that either (i) start or (ii) end on respective common pages of ~~[[said]]~~ the document;

(ed) for each ~~[[said]]~~ common page, grouping together corresponding document links identified at step (ec); and

(ee) providing a cut-out tab functional link corresponding to each ~~[[said]]~~ group of document links.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method according to claim 14, wherein
[[step]] substep (ed) further comprises limiting each ~~of said groups to plural~~ group of document
links to those that either (i) end on different ones of [[said]] the pages or (ii) start on different
ones of [[said]] the pages, ~~as the case may be~~, and [[step]] substep (ee) comprises providing a set
of nested cut-out tab functional links, such that each member of [[said]] the set ~~corresponding~~
corresponds to one [[said]] document link of [[the]] a corresponding [[said]] group.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method according to claim 15, wherein
[[said]] the groups are formed based upon a determinable relationship between corresponding
[[said]] components of the information.

Claim 17 (currently amended): An authoring system for ~~the creation of~~
creating a linear document ~~having that includes~~ non-linear referential links, said system
including:

means for specifying a linear document structure and [[the]] hyperlinks of a
hypermedia source document;

means for associating [[said]] the hyperlinks with physical links able to be
formed in pages of [[said]] the linear document;

means for modelling each [[said]] physical link using a one-dimensional vector
reproducible as a traversable physical path in the linear document; and

means for ~~optimizing~~ arranging an assignment of [[said]] the physical links to

one or more of [[said]] the hyperlinks.

Claim 18 (currently amended): An authoring system for ~~the creation of~~
creating a linear document ~~having~~ that includes non-linear referential links, said system
comprising:

means for assessing hyperlinks within a source hypermedia document to which
a linear document structure is to be applied;

means for associating [[said]] the hyperlinks with physical links able to be
formed in pages of [[said]] the linear document;

means for modelling each [[said]] physical link using a one-dimensional vector
reproducible as a traversable physical path in the linear document; and

means for ~~optimizing~~ arranging an assignment of [[said]] the physical links to
one or more of [[said]] the hyperlinks.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A system for ~~the creation of~~ creating a linear
document ~~having~~ that includes non-linear referential links, said system comprising:

means for assessing hyperlinks within a source hypermedia document to which
a linear document structure is to be applied;

means for associating [[said]] the hyperlinks with physical links able to be
formed in pages of [[said]] the linear document;

means for modelling each [[said]] physical link using a one-dimensional vector

reproducible as a traversable physical path in the linear document;

means for ~~optimizing~~ arranging an assignment of [[said]] the physical links to one or more of [[said]] the hyperlinks;

means for applying [[said]] the linear document structure and ~~said optimized~~ the arranged physical links to [[said]] the hypermedia document to produce [[said]] the linear document; and

means for reproducing [[said]] the linear document.

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Claim 20 (currently amended): A computer program product ~~incorporating~~ embodying a computer-readable ~~medium incorporating a series of instructions~~ program for implementing a method for creating a document suitable for hard copy reproduction, ~~said instructions implementing wherein the method comprises~~ the steps of:

(a) receiving information from at least one electronic source document, [[said]] the information including a plurality of referential links establishing corresponding referential paths between components of [[said]] the information;

(b) defining a physical structure of [[said]] the document suitable for hard copy reproduction and sufficient to reproduce [[said]] the information;

(c) defining a plurality of document links associated with [[said]] the physical structure and corresponding to [[said]] the referential links;

(d) assigning a user interpretable functional link to each [[said]] document link, wherein each functional link forms a traversable physical path in the document between

components of the information; and

(e) ~~optimizing~~ arranging a number of ~~said user-interpretable~~ the functional links by assigning plural ones of ~~[[said]]~~ the document links to at least an individual one of ~~[[said]]~~ the functional links.

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Claim 21 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the physical structure comprises at least one single printable page and ~~[[said]]~~ the functional links comprise at least one ~~indicia~~ indicium printable onto ~~[[said]]~~ a single page, and step (e) comprises merging plural ones of ~~[[said]]~~ the document links to form a single ~~said-indicia~~ indicium associated with a component on ~~[[said]]~~ the page.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the physical structure comprises plural printable pages and ~~[[said]]~~ the functional links comprise at least one cut-out tab formed in at least one of ~~[[said]]~~ the pages, and step (e) comprises assigning plural ones of ~~[[said]]~~ the document links to a single one of ~~[[said]]~~ the at least one cut-out ~~[[tabs]]~~ tab.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 22, wherein at least one ~~[[said]]~~ cut-out tab is formed as part of a nest of correspondingly located tabs associated with plural ones of ~~[[said]]~~ the pages.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 23, wherein the method further comprising comprises the step of retaining structure definitions of [[said]] the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document in a corresponding fashion.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 23, wherein the method further comprising comprises the step of defining a presentational style to [[said]] the document and applying [[said]] the presentational style to [[said]] the functional links to distinguish [[said]] the functional links from [[said]] the components.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 25, wherein the method further comprising comprises the step of retaining [[said]] the presentational style of [[said]] the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document with [[said]] the presentational style.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein the method further comprising comprises the step of defining content specific document links and incorporating corresponding functional links into [[said]] the document.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 27, wherein [[said]] the content specific document links are user defined.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 20, further comprising the step of associating a predetermined stylistic layout with ~~said~~ ~~optimized~~ the arranged functional links so as to vary a hard-copy reproduction of ~~[[said]]~~ the document.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 29, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the predetermined stylistic layout implements ~~[[the]]~~ a formation of cut-out tabs as at least some of ~~said-optimized~~ the arranged functional links.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein step (e) comprises grouping ~~[[said]]~~ the document links according to predetermined criteria associated with ~~[[said]]~~ the document links, each ~~[[said]]~~ group having associated therewith at least one corresponding ~~optimized~~ arranged functional link.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 20, wherein step (e) comprises the sub-steps of:

(ea) importing ~~[[said]]~~ the information into ~~[[said]]~~ the physical structure to form ~~[[said]]~~ the document; and

(eb) applying ~~said-optimized~~ the arranged links to ~~[[said]]~~ the document.


Claim 33 (currently amended): A computer program product according to

claim 20, wherein a plurality of ~~[[said]]~~ the functional links comprises corresponding cut-out tabs linking different pages of ~~[[said]]~~ the document, and step (e) comprises the sub-steps of:

(ec) identifying those of ~~[[said]]~~ the document links that either (i) start or (ii) end on respective common pages of ~~[[said]]~~ the document;

(ed) for each ~~[[said]]~~ common page, grouping together corresponding document links identified at step (ec); and

(ee) providing a cut-out tab functional link corresponding to each ~~[[said]]~~ group of document links.

 Claim 34 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 33, wherein step (ed) further comprises limiting each ~~of said groups to plural~~ group of document links to those that either (i) end on different ones of ~~[[said]]~~ the pages or (ii) start on different ones of ~~[[said]]~~ the pages, ~~as the case may be~~, and step (ee) comprises providing a set of nested cut-out tab functional links, such that each member of ~~[[said]]~~ the set ~~corresponding~~ corresponds to one ~~[[said]]~~ document link of ~~[[the]]~~ a corresponding ~~[[said]]~~ group.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A computer program product according to claim 34, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the groups are formed based upon a determinable relationship between corresponding ~~[[said]]~~ components of the information.

Claim 36 (currently amended): A system for creating a document suitable for

hard copy reproduction, said system comprising:

first means for receiving information from at least one electronic source document, ~~[[said]]~~ the information including a plurality of referential links establishing corresponding referential paths between components of ~~[[said]]~~ the information;

second means for defining a physical structure of ~~[[said]]~~ the document suitable for hard copy reproduction and sufficient to reproduce ~~[[said]]~~ the information;

third means for defining a plurality of document links associated with ~~[[said]]~~ the physical structure and corresponding to ~~[[said]]~~ the referential links;

fourth means for assigning a user interpretable functional link to each ~~[[said]]~~ document link, wherein each functional link forms a traversable physical path in the document between components of the information; and

fifth means for ~~optimizing~~ arranging a number of ~~said user interpretable~~ the functional links by assigning plural ones of ~~[[said]]~~ the document links to at least an individual one of ~~[[said]]~~ the functional links.

Claim 37 (currently amended): A system according to claim 36, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the physical structure comprises at least one single printable page and ~~[[said]]~~ the functional links comprise at least one ~~indicia~~ indicium printable onto ~~[[said]]~~ a single page, and said fifth means comprises means for merging plural ones of ~~[[said]]~~ the document links to form a single ~~said indicia~~ indicium associated with a component on ~~[[said]]~~ the page.

Claim 38 (currently amended): A system according to claim 36, wherein [[said]] the physical structure comprises plural printable pages and [[said]] the functional links comprise at least one cut-out tab formed in at least one of [[said]] the pages, and said fifth means comprises means for assigning plural ones of [[said]] the document links to a single one of [[said]] the at least one cut-out [[tabs]] tab.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A system according to claim 38, wherein at least one [[said]] cut-out tab is formed as part of a nest of correspondingly located tabs associated with plural ones of [[said]] the pages.

Claim 40 (currently amended): A system according to claim 39, further comprising means for retaining structure definitions of [[said]] the document in a template for formatting at least one subsequent document in a corresponding fashion.

Claim 41 (currently amended): A system according to claim 39, further comprising means for defining a presentational style to [[said]] the document and for applying [[said]] the presentational style to [[said]] the functional links to distinguish [[said]] the functional links from [[said]] the components.

Claim 42 (currently amended): A system according to claim 41, further comprising means for retaining [[said]] the presentational style of [[said]] the document in a

template for formatting at least one subsequent document with ~~[[said]]~~ the presentational style.

Claim 43 (currently amended): A system according to claim 36, further comprising means for defining content specific document links and incorporating corresponding functional links into ~~[[said]]~~ the document.

Claim 44 (currently amended): A system according to claim 43, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the content specific document links are user defined.

Claim 45 (currently amended): A system according to claim 36, further comprising means for associating a predetermined stylistic layout with ~~said-optimized~~ the arranged functional links so as to vary a hard-copy reproduction of ~~[[said]]~~ the document.

Claim 46 (currently amended): A system according to claim 45, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the predetermined stylistic layout implements ~~[[the]]~~ a formation of cut-out tabs as at least some of ~~said-optimized~~ the arranged functional links.

Claim 47 (currently amended): A system according to claim 46, wherein said fifth means comprises means for grouping ~~[[said]]~~ the document links according to predetermined criteria associated with ~~[[said]]~~ the document links, each ~~[[said]]~~ group having associated therewith at least one corresponding ~~optimized~~ arranged functional link.

Claim 48 (currently amended): A system according to claim 36, wherein said fifth means comprises:

means for importing [[said]] the information into [[said]] the physical structure to form [[said]] the document; and

means for applying ~~said optimized~~ the arranged links to [[said]] the document.

Claim 49 (currently amended): A system according to claim 36, wherein a plurality of [[said]] the functional links comprises corresponding cut-out tabs linking different pages of [[said]] the document, and said fifth means ~~comprising~~ comprises:

means for identifying those of [[said]] the document links that either (i) start or (ii) end on respective common pages of [[said]] the document;

means for grouping together, for each [[said]] common page, corresponding document links identified by the means for identifying; and

means for providing a cut-out tab functional link corresponding to each [[said]] group of document links.

Claim 50 (currently amended): A system according to claim 49, ~~wherein~~ further comprising means for limiting each of ~~said groups to plural~~ group of document links to those that either (i) end on different ones of [[said]] the pages or (ii) start on different ones of [[said]] the pages, ~~as the case may be~~, and means for providing a set of nested cut-out tab functional links, such that each member of [[said]] the set ~~corresponding~~ corresponds to one

[[said]] document link of [[the]] a corresponding [[said]] group.

Claim 51 (currently amended): A system according to claim 50, wherein
[[said]] the groups are formed based upon a determinable relationship between corresponding
[[said]] components of the information.

Claims 52 and 53 (canceled)

Claim 54 (currently amended): A hard copy document comprising:
information received from at least one electronic source document, [[said]] the
source document including a plurality of non-linear referential links establishing corresponding
referential paths between components of [[said]] the information; and

a ~~number of~~ user interpretable functional link with a part thereof corresponding
to plural ones of the non-linear referential links, wherein the user interpretable functional link is
part of a plurality of user interpretable functional links formed in said hard [[coy]] copy
document and ~~providing~~ provides user interpretable functional traversable physical paths
spanning plural pages of said hard copy document between corresponding components of [[said]]
the information, ~~whereby at least one of said functional links has a part that corresponding to~~
~~plural ones of said non-linear referential links.~~